

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR QUEUING ORDER NOTIFICATION

ABSTRACT

5 A mechanism for providing patrons waiting in a service provider's queue with
information as to their status in the queue are provided. While a patron is in the
queue, at time intervals specified which may be user selectable, an estimate of the
time remaining is calculated based on the patron's current position in the queue. The
estimated time and/or other queue order information may be transmitted to the patron
using the patron's own device, such as a personal digital assistant (PDA), cell phone,
10 etc. When the patron reaches the head of the queue, a notification may be similarly
transmitted. Additionally, the party may be provided with the option to sacrifice its
position in the queue for a later position.

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7047-P516US 10/30/2003